**Year 9 “Are Australians Racist?” Unit**

(This unit will take approximately 8 weeks to complete)

**Content:**

Students will consider the nature of racism with regards to Australia, taking into account a historical perspective and an examination of contemporary attitudes to a range of races and backgrounds. There is a focus on relations with Aboriginal people (linking to film text *Bran Nue Day*) and Australia’s place within Asia (linking to *Tomorrow When the War Began*). Students will read print articles about the issue, as well as blogs, online websites, YouTube clips, documents such as the Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission’s paper “Face the Facts”, as well as discussing their own personal views and experiences.

**Key Terms:**

Informative, persuasive, media, digital media, print media, issue, appeal to patriotism, statistics, analogy, loaded language, tone, asylum seekers, refugees, journalist, ethics, broadsheet, tabloid, purpose, intended audience, citizens, critical literacy, responsibility, publishing, power, racism, immigration, Aboriginal, indigenous, prejudice, discrimination, stereotyping, labelling, rebuttal, Australian (definition of), vilification, multiculturalism, stolen generation.

**Aims and Objectives:**

**Skills:** Students will…

* apply new key terms in their own writing
* analyse how writers persuade particular audiences with their use of language
* practise their own persuasive writing, using particular language techniques (such as those they have learnt over the past two years: analogies, appeals to patriotism, statistics, figurative language, repetition, use of evidence, rhetorical questions and emotive language, tone and then building on this list with more techniques, including appeals to fear, tradition)
* practise their speaking and listening skills with regard to both informative and persuasive reporting
* investigate the history of racism in Australia
* synthesise a wide range of sources in order to develop a sound conclusion
* evaluate the success of a variety of articles and sources using graphic organisers, such as T-charts

**Knowledge:** Students will…

* define key terms
* learn about how information comes in different forms and how to select effective sources and discard poorly-written/poorly-researched sources
* learn about language techniques and the roles they play in persuading audiences
* learn about other methods of communication, such as tone of voice, use of images, sound and music
* be exposed to Australian history and consider the many perspectives they could adopt when approaching our history from a race point-of-view
* gain some national political awareness and a limited international political awareness

**Understanding:** Students will…

* develop awareness of their own values and prejudices
* use their imaginations to take on personas and interpret the research accordingly
* understand how audiences are persuaded and why it is vital that citizens are critical readers/listeners of the news
* understand how the format of print media, including the use of images, informs and persuades readers

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Learning Activities | Student Product | Assessment (S/F) |
| Introduction-give ‘big picture’ idea of what will be involved in this unit and why it is important.  Y-chart of racism (looks like/feels like/sounds like) | Brainstorm about the question “Are Australians racist?” Come to a general consensus about what defines an ‘Australian’ and what ‘racist’ is/looks like/feels like/sounds like. | F |
| Students should already be keeping a glossary, so draw their attention to the words and terms they will be learning about in this unit and add to it in each lesson with one or two words. | Glossary of key terms used in reporting the news, including a column for using the word/term in their own sentence. | F |
| Do some contained activities on persuasive language in general (attached below-Cereal Pests and Houses & Hovels) | Responses in workbooks to activities on handouts | F |
|  |  |
| Read introductory articles (“Racism very much alive in Australia, says Dr Charles Teo”) about racism as a class and discuss ideas. Contrast with an article that claims we’re not racist (try Andrew Bolt’s articles) and start to draw out personal opinions. Model annotating an article to class using a data projector and the Review tab in Word for one of the attached articles. | Class discussion and annotations on articles about the arguments and evidence (as well as persuasive techniques) writers are using to attempt to convince us of their contentions.  New terms added to students’ glossaries. | F |
| Students to research some of their own articles and use some provided to them and annotate them for arguments and evidence, coming to a conclusion about the reliability and validity of the articles. | Several annotated articles.  Table (example below) of arguments and evidence from which students can select their own arguments/evidence for their pieces:   |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | | **Article, writer, date and publication** | **Contention** | **Arguments** | **Evidence** | | “Our past is deeply etched with racism: the attempt to forcibly assimilate Aboriginal people and cut the descent lines of their culture…” | There are racist elements in Australia. | That there have been examples of racism in Australia’s history, such as the Stolen Generation. | The “Bringing them Home” report based on the inquiry into the separation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders children from their families. | |  |  |  |  | | F |
| Use Williams’ Taxonomy (attached below) to further students’ breadth of understanding on the issue. | Responses in workbooks to the choices in the Taxonomy. | F |
|  |  |
|  |  |
| Hand out assessment rubric (attached below) and go through it with the class so that they understand what is expected of them and how to achieve it. These rubrics then need to submitted with the final draft of their essays in order for them to receive written feedback on their work. | Assessment rubric with annotations on it made by students. Class discussion. |  |
| Guide students through the planning stages of the piece (handouts attached below-one has the choices that students will use to decide upon their form of persuasive writing and the other is a planning tool to help them pinpoint their best ideas). If students are really struggling to develop their own arguments, you can restructure the Echo outline I’ve attached at the end of this document to suit their needs. | Students’ responses on planning tool-what their main arguments will be, their evidence, their rebuttal paragraph, etc. | F |
| Write up the piece, in consultation with their teacher (attached are excellent examples of previous students’ work on this unit). | Persuasive piece of writing (final draft), assessment rubric (with name and homegroup written on it!), Statement of Intention (see planning tool below for an example of this) and reference list of source used. | S |

[](http://images.google.com.au/imgres?imgurl=http://www.cynical-c.com/archives/bloggraphics/kellog1.jpg&imgrefurl=http://www.cynical-c.com/archives/2004_02.html&h=432&w=316&sz=30&tbnid=sH9-xhEJvVZh5M:&tbnh=123&tbnw=89&hl=en&start=3&prev=/images?q=cereal+boxes&svnum=10&hl=en&lr=&sa=G) [](http://images.google.com.au/imgres?imgurl=http://www.toysrgus.com/headers2/countchocula.gif&imgrefurl=http://www.toysrgus.com/images-cereal.html&h=433&w=323&sz=64&tbnid=YXPtKa2jgI6idM:&tbnh=123&tbnw=91&hl=en&start=6&prev=/images?q=cereal+boxes&svnum=10&hl=en&lr=&sa=G) [](http://images.google.com.au/imgres?imgurl=http://theimaginaryworld.com/opost02.jpg&imgrefurl=http://theimaginaryworld.com/post.html&h=526&w=392&sz=53&tbnid=qknkTyqWLMNLUM:&tbnh=129&tbnw=96&hl=en&start=10&prev=/images?q=cereal+boxes&svnum=10&hl=en&lr=&sa=G) [](http://images.google.com.au/imgres?imgurl=http://www.womprat.com/images/Food/C3POCerealFront.JPG&imgrefurl=http://www.womprat.com/household.html&h=540&w=360&sz=73&tbnid=Lj6C1fY9Pi9n-M:&tbnh=130&tbnw=86&hl=en&start=48&prev=/images?q=cereal+boxes&start=40&svnum=10&hl=en&lr=&sa=N) [](http://images.google.com.au/imgres?imgurl=http://theimaginaryworld.com/tic503.jpg&imgrefurl=http://theimaginaryworld.com/kellogg.html&h=435&w=301&sz=56&tbnid=FpLouzm-Eb3VKM:&tbnh=123&tbnw=85&hl=en&start=1&prev=/images?q=corn+flakes+cereal+boxes&svnum=10&hl=en&lr=)

**CEREAL PESTS**

At some time in your life, you will have eaten cereal. In fact, you might have eaten some this morning! There is not a household in Australia right now, which doesn’t have at least one box of cereal in their pantry cupboard. It might be a box of good old reliable Weetbix, a chocolate fix of Cocoa Pops or something more conservative, like Muesli.

Cereal boxes are an advertiser’s dream! The big cardboard box has lots of room for a snazzy picture and a catchy slogan, which makes advertising the product really easy. The only problem is getting your cereal product to stand out amongst the hundreds of others.

**Make a list of the techniques advertisers use to sell their cereal:**

**YOUR TASK**

There are three parts to this task.

1) Create your own cereal box. You’ll need to:

* Create a product
* Come up with a name
* Design a coloured package that appeals to adults **and** children
* Provide nutritional information on your product
* Create a competition that will draw people to your product
* Construct a prototype of your product

**YOU MUST USE AT LEAST 8 PERSUASIVE TECHNIQUES**

2) Invent a catchy jingle for advertising your cereal. You may draw on a jingle that already exists in the media world, but you must change it enough that it is reasonably original (in other words, don't just insert the name of your cereal for theirs…)

**Houses and Hovels**

[](http://www.domain.com.au/ore/Public/Gallery/Photo.aspx?adid=2009071452&pic=1&utm_source=local_nodes_realestate&utm_medium=lnseo&utm_content=gallery_iframe&utm_campaign=local_nodes_campaign)

**43 Cathies Lane WANTIRNA SOUTH**

*Elevated Living in a Commanding Position*Here's a home on prestigious Cathies Lane that's generous in every way. With grand living rooms and king-sized bedrooms, there's room here for a family to spread its wings. Behind the private brick fence, steel gates and fretwork veranda, you'll find a formal lobby leads to a deep lounge and dining room with attractive panelled windows to the garden. A high gloss kitchen with quality appliances and a breakfast bar flows to a central living room and a huge covered concrete patio, with four bedrooms upstairs (master with ensuite and walk-in-robe), a main bathroom and sitting room. Comfort and convenience are assured with a downstairs powder room, private study, double garage, ducted heating and evaporative cooling, and vast flat lawn out back (big enough for a pool). It's a practical and inviting floor plan, elevated on the high side of the street for those who want a commanding position close to Eastlink, bus routes, The Knox School and Knox City shops and restaurants.

1 Highlight the words and phrases that create a positive impression of this property.

2 Re-write the description to make this house sound negative.[](http://www.clownswilleatyou.com/pix/my_neighborhood/run-down-house.jpg)

3 Look at the picture above and write a description encouraging buyers to purchase the property.

**Admitting our racism problem is first step to a solution**

**Emily Howie**

*September 7, 2010*

**The UN called it, and we need to ditch the denial if we're to start fixing it.**

**A**T A recent hearing before the United Nations' expert panel on racism, Australia's ambassador in Geneva stated that Australia was ''one of the world's most tolerant countries'', an ''open, multicultural and welcoming nation'' with ''core values of acceptance, tolerance and open-mindedness''.

These are noble aspirations, but to become reality, tolerance must be more than having a Chinese family on *Neighbours*. Multiculturalism must be deeper than dumplings in Chinatown followed by gelati in Lygon Street.

The reality, according to a 2009 VicHealth survey, is that nearly one in 10 of us do not believe that people of all races are equal or that inter-racial marriage should be supported. In the same survey, 37 per cent of respondents felt Australia was weakened by people of different ethnic origins ''sticking to their old ways''.

Thirty-six per cent of respondents said some groups did not fit within Australian society, with Muslim, Middle Eastern and Asian people cited most commonly.

It is hard to reconcile the ambassador's aspirational statement with these alarming public attitudes or with Australian government policies and practices that actively treat people less favourably because of their race or nationality.

As a nation, we barely looked up from our cappuccinos when the government announced it would suspend the visa processing of Afghan and Sri Lankan asylum seekers.

The policy is directed only at people of two particular nationalities, who as a result were, and continue to be, kept in prison-like conditions for at least three to six months, even though they committed no crime. The UN racism panel found this practice of suspending processing claims, without even a legislative basis, of particular concern.

We generally stood by while the government suspended the right of people in Aboriginal communities to be free from racial discrimination, so that the government could send troops into Aboriginal communities without their consent, reclaim land and implement paternalistic policies such as welfare quarantining.

The UN's expert racism panel found that the Northern Territory intervention continues to discriminate on the basis of race and restricts Aboriginal people's rights to land, property, social security, adequate standards of living, cultural development, work and legal remedies.

I am not sure how ''open-minded'' we seem to the young African Australians who report experiencing police targeting, harassment and racial slurs. Or how welcoming we are considered by the more than 4000 people in immigration detention, including 566 children. Or how tolerant we are perceived to be by those Muslim women who have their hijabs pulled and who experience waves of verbal and physical harassment that coincide with a stranger's terrorist activities thousands of kilometres across the seas.

Is it welcoming or open-minded to describe a person's religious dress as ''confronting'', in the manner of our would-be new prime minister?

On the whole, Australia might be a tolerant, open-minded society that is supportive of multiculturalism; certainly the majority of us do not experience racial discrimination. But is near enough good enough? Human rights do not belong only to the majority and we cannot be satisfied just because the majority is protected. Human rights belong to each and every one of us, and the government must ensure those rights for each and every one of us.

They say the first step towards recovery is admitting you have a problem. Well, let's say it like it is. Racism exists in Australia. We hear it, some of us practise it and many of us tacitly condone it. The time has come, in our individual and collective actions and attitudes, including those of our leaders, to acknowledge and denounce it, so that we can move forward.

**Emily Howie is director (advocacy and strategic litigation) at the Human Rights Law Resource Centre.**

Read more: <http://www.theage.com.au/opinion/society-and-culture/admitting-our-racism-problem-is-first-step-to-a-solution-20100906-14xwx.html#ixzz1tl6krDqL>

# [ANTaR - Australians for Native Title and Reconciliation](http://www.antar.org.au/)

**Racism in Australia facts**

Racism takes many different forms. It can range from abusive language or discriminatory treatment to genocide, simply on the basis of someone's 'race' or colour.

Every day, science proves more clearly that humanity, although diverse, is one family and one people. Sadly our common experience also shows that racism, hatred or dislike of others simply because of their origin or culture is a common human failing.

The definition of racial discrimination is contained in Article 1 of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination to which Australia is a party:

"The term "racial discrimination" shall mean any distinction, exclusion, restriction or preference based on race, colour, descent, or national or ethnic origin which has the purpose or effect of nullifying or impairing the recognition, enjoyment or exercise, on an equal footing, of human rights and fundamental freedoms in the political, economic, social, cultural or any other field of public life".

Myths and stereotypes are a key component of racism:

* they reduce a range of differences in people to simplistic categorisations
* transform assumptions about particular groups of people into 'realities'
* are used to justify status quo or persisting injustices
* reinforce social prejudice and inequality

Three out of four Indigenous Australians experience racism in their everyday lives.

At an individual and interpersonal level racism often amounts to:

* an instant or fixed picture of a group of people, usually based on negative and ill-informed stereotypes
* a preconceived negative opinion
* limiting the opportunities (intentionally or not) of certain individuals or groups because of personal characteristics such as race or colour

Labelling of Indigenous Australians including stereotypes such as dark skin, despair, levels of alcohol consumption, laziness, levels of intelligence, ability to work and care for children, and levels of criminality are all part of the myths and stereotypes that perpetuate racism in Australia.

Eradicating racism is a task we all share.

Sadly racism is common in Australia. Here, we have put together some stories about the shape that racism takes in Australia of today.

**A story from Alice Springs**

A group of young leaders from Yuendumu, a remote central Australian Aboriginal community were ejected from an Alice Springs backpacker hostel in March 2008 because some tourists staying there complained they were 'afraid of Aborigines'.

The 16 people in the group which included women and small children, had driven the 300 kilometres to Alice Springs for lifesaving training run by the Royal Lifesaving Society. Most were young leaders, chosen specially for their standing in the Yuendumu community.

As they were moving into their rooms the resort manager told them they'd have to pack up and go because some tourists in the hostel had complained of being 'afraid of Aborigines' and these tourists 'bring in a lot of money'.

The organisers of the trip are stunned. Angry about the incident, the CEO of the Royal Lifesaving Society is describing it as 'pure racism'.

**5½ hours – a story from Brisbane**

Delmae Barton aged 62, a prominent Indigenous Elder and an opera singer, lay for more than five hours on a bus stop seat near Griffith University's Nathan Campus in July 2006, unable to reach out for help after vomiting from a suspected stroke or diabetes attack.

For five and a half hours, commuters, students and bus drivers ignored her plight until two young Japanese men asked if she needed water and help.

Her friend and the director of the Gumurri Centre at the university Boni Robertson, says it is a disgrace that Auntie Delmae's plight was ignored by hundreds of commuters as buses came and went.

She said 'nobody would stop to help me. Is this all I'm worth?' She believes people thought she was a drunk or a drug addict, and that the colour of skin encouraged them to walk on by.

The then Premier Peter Beattie told parliament he was 'really disappointed' by the incident and apologised on behalf of Queenslanders.

**A story from Townsville**

Aborigines can no longer receive a fair trial in Townsville according to survey results to be released in July that show a majority of residents would be unable to expel racist attitudes in court. The survey was conducted to demonstrate the need for the Lex Wotton Palm Island Riots case to be moved from a scheduled hearing in Townsville to Brisbane to ensure a fair and just trial.

In the survey, commissioned by Sydney-based law firm, Levitt Robinson, over half of Townsville residents claimed they could not disregard negative beliefs held about Aborigines, even if instructed by a judge in a courtroom setting.

These results bring to light a segregated city rife with racist views with only one in ten Townsville residents having a positive attitude towards Aboriginal people in the community.

Ignorance seemed to be a major factor with only one in four people correctly attributing the cause of the Palm Island Riots to a death in custody.

**A story from Sydney**

In April 2008, a world-renowned Aboriginal composer, buzzing after a standing ovation at the Sydney Opera House, was turned away from half-empty Kings Cross haunt Hugo's. He and his friend were told, "You can't expect us to just let anyone in."

William Barton, a son of Delmae Barton, who has been to some of the world's top bars over his acclaimed career, was told the venue was "at capacity" as he tried to get it at 9.30pm on a Sunday to celebrate a friend's birthday. His friend immediately fronted Hugo's door staff - and was rudely told: "You can't expect us to just let anyone in."

**Racial discrimination is against the law**

The Racial Discrimination Act (1975) makes it illegal to discriminate against people on the basis of their race, colour, descent or ethnic or national origin. It is unlawful to discriminate against someone when it prevents them from enjoying their human rights, such as employment, land/housing/accommodation, education, access to public places and facilities, access to goods and services (e.g. doctors, lawyers, applying for credit, entry to pubs, etc.).

For more information and for a Plain English guide to the Racial Discrimination Act (1975) see the [HREOC website](http://www.humanrights.gov.au/racial_discrimination/guide_to_rda/index.html). While you're there, you might also like to read [Voices of Australia magazine](http://www.hreoc.gov.au/racial_discrimination/voices/index.html).

**Getting Help**

If you have experienced racial discrimination or vilification please contact the HREOC (Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission) infoline on 1300 656 419 or email complaintsinfo AT humanrights.gov.au

**More information on racism in Australia**

* Read more from [Australian Lawyers for Human Rights](http://www.alhr.asn.au/)
* Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission's [Race Discrimination Unit](http://www.hreoc.gov.au/racial_discrimination/index.html)
* Find out about Indigenous people internationally from [Survival](http://www.survival-international.org/home), the movement for tribal people around the world
* [United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues](http://www.un.org/esa/socdev/unpfii/)

**Wake up Australia! We are racist**

Posted by: By Peter Maher | 4 January, 2010 - 4:11 PM



Another young Indian man Nitin Garg lost his life on the weekend as he made his way to work at Hungry Jack's in West Footscray.

Police, along with Acting Premier Rob Hulls, have been telling us that this latest murder is not race related.

How the Police and the Acting Premier can come to this conclusion is beyond comprehension really.

No-one has been arrested for the murder and the reasoning behind this senseless waste of a life rests with the murderer who at this stage is unknown.

How anyone can say it is not race related when they do not know the circumstances of the murder as I said earlier is difficult to comprehend.

What I do know though is that this abusive, violent, murderous behaviour towards Indians in this country is far too prevalent to suggest that we do not have a problem with racism in this country.

Has everyone forgotten what happened in Cronulla in December, 2005?

Around 5,000 young white Australians gathered at Cronulla Beach to protest against a series of assaults on volunteer lifesavers that had occurred the week previous.

The mob - fuelled by alcohol - turned violent when they spotted a young man of Middle Eastern appearance who was immediately surrounded and attacked. Over the next two nights racial hatred violence reigned supreme in Cronulla and surrounding suburbs.

This is not the first time we have treated visitors to our country and new Australians in this manner. Cast your mind back to the post-war immigration and we had our new immigrants labelled wogs and the obligatory “get back to where you belong” jibe was forever present.

Then after Vietnam we had the boat people and they were going to eat all our dogs. Next, came those from the Middle East who were going to blow us all up and now we have the poor Indians whose only complaints it seems from our racist brothers is the colour of their skin.

We are so quick to brush these racist tendencies under the carpet and provide the world with this image of us as being non-discriminatory and all-inviting.

I think it is time we took a real good look at ourselves and do something about the racism that exists in this country.

It was always believed that the racists in this country were the older Australians due to the experiences of the last two world wars. Have a look at those involved in Cronulla five years ago and those who have been found guilty of racist attacks in Victoria.

They are not our older Australians they are the fathers of our new Australia.

### [Your Say](http://www.3aw.com.au/blogs/3aw-generic-blog/wake-up-australia-we-are-racist/20100104-lpmr.html?page=2#commentForm)

* I'm Singaporean and my husband is Australian. We, as a couple, experienced a lot of racism and it got so bad for us that we decided to move to US. And I'm glad we did because it improved our quality of life. In US, its so easy to fit in. No one cares. Race is almost a non-issue in US. My husband and I miss Australia a lot but it just isn't worth wasting our life over.

Maggy Tuesday 14 June, 2011 - 10:32 PM

* I would say that your article is very misinformed.  
    
  I would like to clear one thing up the Cronulla riots were not started by us the Cronulla riots were started by Lebonese men who king-hit a lifeguard, it was because of this that white Australians formed a gang (i am not saying this is right) and to create an excellent story the media pinned the blame on all of us.

You also forget that the lebonese were invovled.

Just because one violent pig murders an Indian it does not mean that every single Australian is racist.

Australians are the complete opposite of racist. Many Australians do not speak out against people of other nationalities.

you are the one who is racist.

Kate Friday 27 May, 2011 - 1:15 PM

* I'm afraid i must have missed earlier facts; all I read was that he was Indian. It appears to me that you assume that, because of his race,him being murdered was an act of racism. An act against a coloured person doesn't make someone racist. Also, some might argue that because we don't want a big Australia, we are racist. Maybe Australia's too crowded and people miss the old one. Finally, not all Aussis are racist, many of us just care about how someone acts and treats you. Religion may also be a factor here because of different beliefs and morals. I disagree with this article and find that it jumps to preconceived conclusions too quickly. It appears that the writer felt it necessary to prove Australia racist with this flimsy article.

lilly Saturday 12 March, 2011 - 8:28 PM

Racism is holding Australia back

# Racism is holding Australia back

Racism is driven by fear and ignorance and must be got rid of so Australia can move forward

By Liz Cush 18 July, 2011



Some Australian politicians never want to admit that racism exists.

They would suggest the Cronulla riots in 2005 -- when Anglo-Australians wore the national flag as a cape, drank Victoria Bitter and protested against ethnicities going to the southern Sydney beach -- weren’t a reflection on Australian society. Similar denial exists about the racial motivation of attacks on Indian students in Melbourne. Or the negative perceptions of Asians.

Yet the political rhetoric that justifies policies towards asylum seekers and refugees fans the flames of racism in everyday life.

It’s just so easy for a white person to pretend racism doesn’t exist in Australia: we are not the ones stopped for “random” security checks at airports. We aren’t constantly asked where we are from or stared at for wearing a hijab. We are not the Aborigines targeted by police in Sydney's Redfern and asked to empty our pockets.

I grew up in a small town on the south coast of New South Wales, where I loved to travel metaphorically around the world by gobbling up books. While there were few Asian, Arab, African or Latino faces in my country town in the 1980s, I heard about trips to Thailand and Vietnam and wondered about different ways of life.

In my mind, imagination and experience, the diversity of the world and its peoples has become a gift to savor and enjoy.

One of my favorite things about Sydney is the racial diversity. It’s fascinating to catch a train to Parramatta and overhear simultaneous conversations in so many different languages. I love to visit the suburbs and taste foods from Indonesia, Ethiopia and Chile. It’s cool that on any given night in I can go and dance salsa with Latinos or dance to Caribbean beats.

Racism is strongly driven by an irrational fear of the unknown. We’re told how dangerous places are and to distrust certain cultures. My experience has been that the people I am meant to fear are actually just going about their daily lives in the way they know how.

In Australia, since September 11, Muslims have become the perceived bogeyman: their beards, headscarves and way of praying strikes fear into many a VB drinking, board short-wearing, football-loving patriot. In my opinion, Sharia law is none too friendly, but this is not a real danger to women’s rights in Australia. While radical Muslims exist, they are merely on a par with fundamentalist Christians.

Don’t forget it’s the Christian leaders of our country who squeeze money from schools and hospitals in order to fund police to beat us up at the rallies where we protest these policies.

Hand-in-hand with an inexhaustible drive for profits, racism drives wars and foreign invasions. It serves only the interests of politicians who pander to corporations. It divides and weakens people and keeps us from seeing who our real enemies are.

It is just stupid to judge a person based on the color of their skin or place of birth.

If we could see an Iraqi or Afghan person for what they are, equal to you and me in humanity, could we stand for what our governments are doing to them in our name?

On the flip side, many Australians of English or Irish stock are vehemently against racism. We organize and march in demonstrations protesting war in Iraq and Afghanistan, and the continuing occupation of Palestine. We protest the continuing theft of Aboriginal lands by mining companies -- such as is now happening in the Kimberley in Western Australia, Lake Cowal in western New South Wales and Muckaty in the Northern Territory.

We try to be aware that we are often very privileged in this society purely because of the pale coloring of our skins and our Anglo names.

I detest the idea that a fifth generation Irish-Australian is more “Aussie” than a second-generation Lebanese-Australian or so-called “boat people” from Sudan or Somalia.

Unless you are of the first peoples -- the many nations of Aboriginal people of this ancient land -- to be Australian is to be an immigrant. That is irrespective of why or when in the past 223 years you -- or your ancestors -- came here.

As much as political leaders try and encourage us to fear each other, we can fight against the poison that is racism by opening our eyes to the beauty of difference that make our common humanity so interesting.

And only then can Australia move forward.

Read more: [Racism in Australia | CNNGo.com](http://www.cnngo.com/sydney/life/racism-sux-581537#ixzz1XhPlwomI) <http://www.cnngo.com/sydney/life/racism-sux-581537#ixzz1XhPlwomI>

Top of Form

# Bolt sued over Aboriginal skin colour comments

Updated March 28, 2011 18:04:00

Andrew Bolt is a regular guest on the ABC's Insiders program. (Insiders)

The Federal Court in Melbourne has begun hearing a civil case against Herald Sun newspaper columnist Andrew Bolt.

Bolt is being sued under the Racial Discrimination Act by a group of Aborigines over four articles he wrote in 2009.

The court has heard the articles questioned the motives of light or white-skinned people who identified themselves as Aboriginal, implying they did so for personal gain.

The court was told Bolt was breeding prejudice against them.

The court heard the articles were "a head-on assault on a group of highly successful and high-achieving" Aborigines.

The counsel representing nine Aborigines is seeking a public apology from Bolt and a ban on republishing the articles, which appeared in 2009 and 2010.

The applicants say they were offended, insulted, humiliated or intimidated by Bolt's articles.

The applicants are taking class action against him over articles and blogs including one headlined "White is the new black" and articles "It's so hip to be black" and "White fellas in the black".

Barrister Ron Merkel SC, appearing for the applicants, said the articles took a eugenics approach that was frozen in history.

Mr Merkel said Bolt's articles had trivialised the Aborigines, were gratuitous and stereotyped a group of Aborigines who had fair skin.

He said the articles had questioned their Aboriginality and their right to receive taxpayer-funded grants.

"What he says is that if you don't look Aboriginal, then you don't have to be," Mr Merkel said.

He said Bolt's idea of an Aborigine was of a man standing on a hill with a spear.

"He is living in a mindset frozen in history, frozen in a period of time," Mr Merkel said.

One of the witnesses, Bindy Cole, testified she was distressed and offended by the articles because they denied her Aboriginality was real, based only on how she looked.

She told the court Bolt was saying the only genuine Aboriginal people are those with two Aboriginal parents and dark skin.

The defence will argue the articles are exempt under the Act because Bolt was expressing genuinely held views on matters of public interest.

Bolt is a regular guest on the ABC's Insiders program.

The hearing is continuing.

- **ABC/AAP**

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| --- | --- |
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**Extended Brainstorming –a.k.a. William’s Taxonomy**

Extended Brainstorming or Williams Taxonomy is a tool which assists students to develop different types of thinking. It helps develop **cognitive** thinking (thinking that is based on facts) and **affective** thinking (thinking which employs emotions). It does so by posing eight different types of questions. Complete the questions below.

***Are Australians racist?***

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Cognitive Thinking** | | | | **Affective Thinking** | | | |
| **Fluency** | **Flexibility** | **Originality** | **Elaboration** | **Curiosity** | **Complexity** | **Risk taking** | **Imagination** |
| …encourages   * Lots of ideas * Lots of solutions * Lots of possibilities * Lots of consequences | … encourages   * Different sorts of ideas * Different directions * Adapting thoughts * Adapting ideas | … encourages   * A new idea * A better idea * An unusual idea | … encourages   * An expanded idea * A more detailed idea * An enhanced idea * A more complex idea | … encourages people to ask   * Suppose that? * What if? * When might? * Where could? | … encourages people to ask   * What reason could there be? * What contributes to? * What makes people…? * What factors contribute to…? | … encourages people to ask   * Why do you think…? * Justify why… * Which is better? * Decide and explain… | … encourages people to ask   * How would you feel if…? * Pretend that… * Imagine yourself in… * Think of a time when… |
| * List 4 types of racism. * What values do Australians associate with multiculturalis-m? * Suggest 3 factors that determine whether someone is “Australian”. | Consider the similarities and differences between the treatment of Aboriginal Australians and native Americans. Draw a Venn diagram to show your response. | If you were the Prime Minister, what would you suggest to combat racism in Australia? Be specific and give reasons for your choices. | You are to host a meeting of members of ANTaR, the mayor of Knox, the council of Knox, local politicians & Aboriginal Australians & Torres Strait Islanders. You are asked to prepare an agenda for the meeting. What will you include on the agenda? Who is going to speak and about what? What will be the priority of the items? | Suppose that the White Australia policy was still in effect today. What would the social, economic and political effects of the policy be on our national community? | What reasons could there be for the recent rise in debate about whether Australia is racist? Is this generation more or less prejudiced about other cultures than previous generations? Why/why not? What effect does this have on our understanding of who we are as Australians? | Suggest another national issue that Australia faces and justify why this is more important to debate than racism. Include the sorts of values that are associated with this prioritisation. | Imagine that your great-grandfather was an Aboriginal Australian. Write what your perspective on this issue might be and how you feel about his experience of the treatment of Aboriginal people by Anglo-Australians. What goes through your mind as you watch others suggest that Australians are not racist? |

Choices for Persuasive Writing

**Choose one of the following for your persuasive piece, due Friday 1st June.**

1. You are a student who is currently studying Australian history. Write an opinion article for your school newsletter outlining your opinion on the topic: “Are Australians racist?”
2. You are an Aborignal Australian. Write a speech to be presented at a local festival, outlining your opinion about whether Australians are racist.
3. You are a politician who has been following the issue in the media. Write a letter to the editor outlining your viewpoint on the issue: “Are Australians racist?”
4. You are an immigrant to Australia, studying at university here. Write an editorial for the university’s newspaper, outlining your viewpoint on the above issue.

**Keep this rubric (overleaf) and submit with your essay on the due date. If no rubric is submitted, you will receive your mark, but no feedback about your writing.**

Steps left for you to do:

1. Define ‘Australians’ and define ‘racist’.
2. Read over your articles (taking note of the arguments and evidence) and decide what contention you’ll take on the issue.
3. Use the essay planning handout and your table of arguments and evidence to plan your piece.
4. Write your Statement of Intention.
5. Write your essay.
6. Workshop your essay with myself, friends, parents, anyone you like.
7. Refine your piece based on the feedback you received from the above people.
8. Submit your essay, Statement of Intention and rubric on 1/6/12.
9. Start working on your oral presentation!

**Writing Folio: Persuasive Writing Assessment Criteria Year 9**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Standards | 5.00 | 5.25 | 5.50 | 5.75 | 6.00 |
| **Exploration of ideas & themes** | Demonstrates the ability to explore content and ideas within a given form. | Demonstrates the ability to explore and refer to challenging ideas and concepts within an appropriate form. | Uses writing to explore more complex content incorporating challenging ideas and concepts  within an appropriate form. | Uses writing to explore complex content, incorporating challenging ideas and concepts in an appropriate form. | Uses writing confidently to explore complex content, incorporating challenging ideas and concepts in an appropriate form. |
| Planning **Thinking Processes: Creativity** | A plan was completed which demonstrates the ability to select, organise and develop key ideas.  Applies a writing frame appropriate to the task. | Writing shows evidence of clear planning to support the selection and organisation of ideas. Edits writing for clarity and coherence.  Displays creativity in expressing opinions and arguments within the piece. | Writing shows evidence of thorough planning to support a clear position and accounts for different perspectives. Redrafts and edits for audience appropriateness.  Displays creativity in concisely expressing opinions and arguments. | Writing shows evidence of appropriate planning and workshopping. Audience and purpose are accounted for. Creative thinking strategies have been applied in order to maximise content and form. | Writing shows evidence of thorough planning and workshopping, with a complete Statement of Intention that matches the persuasive content and style of the piece. |
| Structure | The writing is both persuasive and engaging on some levels and displays attempts to employ persuasive techniques, such as emotive language, tone and expert opinion within a recognisable structure. | Writing pays attention to the consistency of viewpoint and the development of a resolution. Writing follows appropriate structure and effectively explores the issue while persuading the reader using appropriate techniques. | Writing displays development of a contention, a consistency of viewpoint and cohesive control. Appropriate structure is sustained throughout, including the employment of appropriate persuasive techniques. | The structure of the writing allows for development of arguments and evidence about the topic, which are conveyed through the appropriate use of a variety of persuasive techniques. | The structure is consistent and creative, allowing for thorough development of contention, arguments and evidence using appropriate persuasive techniques. |
| **Mechanics of language** | Increasingly complex spelling and punctuation is edited effectively. | Spelling and punctuation is accurate and tenses are controlled, with subject-verb and verb-noun agreement. | Spelling and grammar are accurate throughout piece. Uses language techniques appropriate to form. | Spelling and grammar are accurate and enhance the fluency of the piece. | Spelling, grammar, punctuation and vocabulary all play a strong role in supporting the conveying of the topic. |
| **Expression** | Demonstrates the ability to write confidently for selected purposes. Varied sentence structure, careful selection of vocabulary and increasingly complex use of persuasive language is used to convey contention appropriate to context, purpose and audience. | Demonstrates improvement in the accuracy and readability of their writing. Is developing confidence in the identification and use of grammatical conventions and features of language, including complex use of persuasive language. | Demonstrates clear understanding of grammatical conventions including persuasive language. Writing is increasingly accurate and engaging through appropriate vocabulary and sentence length. | Persuasive language has obviously been developed and worked on throughout the drafting of this piece. The chosen expression adds meaning to the overall issue, contention and arguments. | Persuasive language allows a fresh perspective into the issue, arguments and chosen evidence. Care has been taken to develop persuasive techniques that underpin the flow of expression in the piece. |

**Preparation for Persuasive Essay**

Please fill out this sheet and submit it to me for checking to help you plan your essay, responding to the topic:

*“Are Australians racist?”*

1. What is your contention? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
2. What arguments are you going to use in your essay? a)\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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3a. What argument are you going to use for your rebuttal paragraph? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

3b. How will you rebut this argument? Dot point the argument and evidence you will use:

Argument:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Evidence:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

1. What will go into your introduction? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
2. What will go into your conclusion? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
3. Prepare your reference list now. Below is an example of how to reference an article:

Graham-Prowse, Felicity, “Racism” in The Age, 12/3/06.

Make a list of all the articles you refer to in your essay and submit for checking, too. You will then simply attach this to your essay after you have written it.

Mrs. G-P’s signature that she has approved this plan: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Attach this plan to your essay with your reference list and Statement of Intention (example below in case you’ve forgotten how to write one ☺).**

**Statement of Intention**

**Title:** Racism is Rife

**Author:** Felicity Graham-Prowse

**Genre:** Persuasive writing (letter to the editor)

**Audience:** the middle-class, mostly white, readers of a Melbourne newspaper

**Purpose:** to persuade the readers to see that racism is both prevalent and pervasive throughout our society

**Outline:** I have taken on the persona of a politician who is keen to see a change in Australia’s attitude towards racism. As this politician, I aim to highlight what has been achieved towards Aboriginal reconciliation as well as multiculturalism, but also acknowledge that there is a dangerous and subversive undercurrent of racism that still exists and must be challenged. I have appealed to the audience of the newspaper by using examples local to Melbourne and contrasting them with what else is happening around Australia and internationally.

### 2009/11: Is Australia racist?

**What they said...**  
*'I don't believe Australia is more racist than any other country'*  
Former Australian Medical Association president, Mukesh Haikerwal, who was savagely bashed in 2008  
  
*'There is nothing more lame than an Australian defence that points out that racism and policing problems exist in India, too. So what? This is not a point-scoring game'*  
Greg Sheridan, writing in The Australian on June 4, 2009  
  
**The issue at a glance**  
A number of recent events have refuelled the debate within Australia and overseas as to whether this is a racist nation.  
On June 30, 2009, Solomon Trujillo resigned as Telstra's chief executive. Trujillo is an American telecommunications executive with Hispanic origins who had been hired to head Telstra on July 1, 2005. After leaving Telstra Trujillo gave a BBC interview in which he claimed to have been the victim of racist attitudes in Australia.  
In May and June, 2009, allegedly racially motivated attacks against Indian international students and a perceived poor response by the police sparked protests in Australia. Rallies were held in both Melbourne and Sydney. Impromptu street protests were held in Harris Park, a suburb of western Sydney with a large Indian population.  
The federal government initially appeared to want to downplay the issue; however, in the face of severe criticism in the Indian media and protests on the streets of India, the Prime Minister, Mr Kevin Rudd, reassured the Indian government that Australia took the problem seriously and was attempting to correct it.  
  
**Background**  
*Solomon Trujillo's views on racism in Australia*  
(The following information is taken from Wikipedia's entry on Solomon Trujillo. The full text of the entry can be found at [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sol\_Trujillo)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sol_Trujillo%29)  
  
After Trujillo left Telstra and Australia, he was quoted in an BBC interview describing Australia as racist, backward and like 'stepping back in time'. During his time in Australia, media commentators and cartoonists repeatedly made reference to Mr Trujillo's Hispanic background including caricatures of him as a 'bandido'. The group of American executives who were recruited to work at Telstra were referred to, along with Trujillo, as the 'three amigos'. In the BBC interview, Trujillo cited Australia's 'very restrictive' immigration policies and rigid rules on company privatisation as his evidence for the nation being backward and racist. When Trujillo's resignation from Telstra was announced, Prime Minister Kevin Rudd gave an 'Adios' response. Trujillo described Mr Rudd's use of the term as racist.  
  
*Attacks on Indian students in 2009*  
(The following list of attacks on Indian students in 2009 comes from Wikipedia. The full text of the entry can be found at [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2009\_attacks\_on\_Indian\_students\_in\_Australia)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2009_attacks_on_Indian_students_in_Australia%29)  
  
'David', a 21 year old Indian student, was beaten unconscious in the Melbourne suburb of Glenroy on 4 May 2009. Four men had surrounded him, the one from behind smashing a bottle over his head before continuing to punch and kick him.   
  
Sourabh Sharma was assaulted and robbed by a gang on a train while travelling to his home in Werribee in Melbourne's western suburbs in May 2009. Sharma said his attackers asked 'Why the f--- did you come here?'  
  
Shravan Kumar, a 25 year old student, was stabbed in the head with a screwdriver in May 2009 while he was partying with three other Indian students.  
  
Rajesh Kumar, an Indian graduate living in the Sydney suburb of Harris Park, had a petrol bomb thrown through his bedroom window on 24 May 2009. Kumar received burns to 30 percent of his body and the blaze was extinguished by his Indian housemates. One housemate, Arminder Singh, said that they had no enemies and he did not know the reason for the attack. Singh also said that the area was not safe, and that he knew neighbours who had been robbed.  
  
Baljinder Singh, a 25 year old Indian student, was stabbed in the abdomen near Carnegie railway station in Melbourne on 25 May. One of his two attackers laughed during the assault.  
  
Ashish Sood was badly beaten by a group of fifteen people on Chappel Street in Melbourne on 30 May.  
  
On 2 June, Nardeep Singh a 21 year old Indian student was slashed across the chest with a box-cutter knife in Frankston. The incident occurred a day after a Sikh temple in Shepparton was vandalised.  
  
On 8 June, Indians were attacked in Harris Park, allegedly by a group of Lebanese men, which sparked a street protest. The local police superintendent said there was no suggestion that these incidents were racially motivated.  
  
On 8 June, 23 year old Kamal Jit was beaten unconscious while walking home from the St Albans train station. In the suburb of Springvale, an Indian student's car was torched.  
  
On 11 June, a 22 year old old Indian student was assaulted in Rundle Mall in Adelaide. The fight, which resulted in the students nose being broken, began when the attacker struck at his turban.  
  
On 13 June, 24 year old Hardik Bipinbhai Patel was attacked by three people in Melbourne as he was about to enter his car. He was punched directly in the face by one while another hit him over the head from behind rendering him unconscious. He reported that they stole his mobile phone, wallet and car keys.   
  
On 15 June, 20 year old Sunny Bajaj was attacked by two men as he was about to enter his car in Boronia. He said they slammed the car door on his hand and punched him in the head and stomach and then racially abused him, calling him a "----ing indian c---". He also identified one man as white and one appearing to be of African descent.  
  
**Internet information**  
Wikipedia's entry on Sol Trujillo can be found at <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sol_Trujillo>  
  
An ABC report broadcast by Sabra Lane on May 26 on the AM program introduced by Tony Eastley, contained excerpts from the BBC program in which Trujillo complained of racist attitudes in Australia. The full text of this program can be found at <http://www.abc.net.au/am/content/2009/s2580674.htm>  
  
On June 13, 2009, Sue Bolton and Chris Peterson wrote a commentary and analysis in which they considered the recent attacks against Indian students in Australia. The piece is titled, 'Indian students speak: Stop the racist attacks!' The full text of this article can be found at <http://www.greenleft.org.au/2009/798/41083>  
  
On June 1, 2009, West Australia Today reported in detail the Australian Prime Minister's claims that a vast majority of Australians were 'appalled' by the recent attacks on Indian students. The full text of the report can be found at <http://www.watoday.com.au/national/rudds-plea-were-not-racists-20090601-bsnj.html>  
  
The New South Wales Education Department site dealing with Multiculturalism can be found at <http://www.schools.nsw.edu.au/events/statecompetitions/webawards/winners2005/secondary/11/multiculturalism.htm>  
  
The Indian news site Merinews news includes an opinion piece by Om Prakash Yadav in which he analyses what he believes to be the underlying causes of the recent attacks on Indian students. The full text of this analysis can be found at <http://www.merinews.com/catFull.jsp?articleID=15771339>  
  
The Australian anti-racism site 'Racism: No Way' can be found at <http://www.racismnoway.com.au/library/cultural/>  
This is intended for school use and includes a large amount of useful information. This includes an outline of all Australian laws prohibiting racism.  
  
**Arguments suggesting Australia is not racist**  
1. Many of the behaviours claimed to be racist have other causes  
It has been suggested that the issue is not primarily one of racism, but one of violence and theft. Victoria Police Deputy Commissioner, Kieran Walshe, has indicated that he did not believe the attacks on Indian students were racially motivated. Rather, Deputy Commissioner Walshe has suggested, offenders were focusing on 'soft targets'.   
The Deputy Chief Commissioner has stated, 'I don't think they are [racist] in general. We think the majority of these things occur through opportunistic activity.'  
He has said he believes some Indian students were being attacked because they were by nature quiet and passive people, they travelled late at night, often alone and carried expensive gadgets.  
Walshe has further stated,'Really what we're saying to them is to be aware of their surroundings, try and walk in areas that are well-lit. If you're walking on a road walk towards the traffic; if you're out in a public place, don't count money.'  
This point has also been made by the former Australian Medical Association president, Mukesh Haikerwal, savagely bashed last year. Dr Haikerwal has said, '"I don't run away from the fact that I am of Indian origin but I was one of seven people attacked that night - and I was the only person with any kind of colour...I don't believe Australia is more racist than any other country and calling something a racial attack doesn't disguise the fact that all these things are wrong. We really have to work out why this is happening and send the message that violence is unacceptable in our society.'  
A similar argument was made in The Herald Sun by commentator Andrew Bolt who stated, 'It's the sheer level of violence, not the motives driving some thug to kick in a student's teeth, that should shame and alarm us. After all, it's no less terrifying to be kicked in the head by a saint.   
It also hurts just the same whether you're Indian, English or a Colac farmer, so we should be angry that it's not just Indians being bashed, but people born right here who are kicked unconscious at railway platforms, glassed in pubs, shot in Flinders St or pack-attacked to death outside nightclubs.   
Where are the police? Where are the punishments? How did we fail to civilise so many young men, now acting like gleeful extras in a Tarantino splatter-fest or an Underbelly celebration of ferals? How did we fail even to make them fear to break the law?...  
That so many Indian students are bashed and robbed can be largely explained by the kind of part-time jobs they tend to take, being hard workers - the late shifts in 7-Eleven stores, taxis and petrol stations, for instance.   
Imagine how safe these students are when they then go home alone late at night, often walking or taking near-deserted trains back to the tough suburbs where the cheap rents are. How safe would your own children be? '  
  
2. Australia has taken legislative action against any racism that does occur  
Australia has a variety of laws which give form to its opposition to racism. These laws are intended to protect Australians of a variety of cultural and ethnic backgrounds from acts of negative discrimination. These laws seek to educate the total Australian population as to how we should treat each other. They also include sanctions or punishments for those who discriminate against others.  
There is the Commonwealth Racial Discrimination Act (1975). There is the Commonwealth Racial Hatred Act (1995) and the Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission Act (1986)   
The Racial Discrimination Act (RDA) aims to ensure that all Australians can enjoy their human rights and freedoms in full equality regardless of their race, colour, descent, or national or ethnic origin, being an immigrant (in some circumstances) or being a relative or associate of someone of a particular ethnicity or other status. The RDA applies to everyone in Australia including businesses, schools, local governments, State and Territory government agencies and departments and Commonwealth government agencies and departments. It overrides racially discriminatory State or Territory legislation, making it ineffective. However, Commonwealth legislation which is racially discriminatory is not necessarily overridden by the RDA.  
The Racial Hatred Act extends the coverage of the Racial Discrimination Act (RDA) to allow people to complain about racially offensive or abusive behaviour. In 1995, the Racial Hatred Act amended the RDA by adding in new laws specifically dealing with racial vilification. The Racial Hatred Act gives effect to some of Australia's obligations under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination.  
The Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission Act (HREOCA) is another Commonwealth law which applies throughout Australia. HREOCA gives effect to the following relevant international conventions and declarations, such the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the Declaration on the Rights of the Child, the Convention on the Rights of the Child, the Declaration on the Rights of Persons Belonging to National or Ethnic, Religious or Linguistic Minorities. It also gives effect to International Labour Organisation Convention on Discrimination in Employment and Occupation and United Nations declarations concerning the rights of people with disabilities.  
In Victoria sentencing laws will be amended by the end of 2009 to require judges to consider racially motivated factors and prejudice in sentencing violent offenders.   
  
3. Some degree of racism occurs in all nations  
It has repeatedly been claimed that Australia has no more racists than any other country.  
In an editorial published in The Australian on June 2, it was stated, 'But while we must be fast and firm in denouncing all such attacks, we must be equally resolute in rejecting any idea that these attacks explain anything about Australia. Certainly our nation, as with all other countries, includes individuals who act out their own social incompetence and evil aggression by attacking innocents in the streets. Nor is there any doubt that people who stand out due to the colour of their skin, the cut of their clothes or whose hand they hold in public can be singled out by cowards who fear anybody who is different to them. But while no society can forgive such behaviour, Australia has no more than the same share of violent outcasts as exist in any other nation where the rule of law exists because the vast majority of its citizens wish it.'  
In a letter published in The Age on May 30, 2009, Farhad Billimoria stated, 'I am an Indian and have been living in Australia for 17 years. Australia is one of the most accepting nations and one of the most multicultural. I have no doubt that these acts, while abhorrent, do not reflect the attitudes of the majority of the public.  
It is a shame the Indian Government has used this as an excuse for politicking. It has tried to paint the whole country as racist, and seems to be putting the blame on the authorities.  
While I have experienced the odd racial incident, it is a minority element. Unfortunately, making that known does not seem as newsworthy or politically dramatic as trying to impugn an entire country.'  
In another letter published on June 1, 2009, in The Age, Munusami Kumaramangalam stated, 'After reading the reports about attacks on Indian students in Melbourne and watching the television interview with the Indian High Commissioner, I looked at three different Indian newspapers online. The following headlines of incidents in Indian cities attracted my attention: "High-ranking police officer faces sexual harassment charge"; "Jain temple priest killed and eight kilograms of gold stolen in Chennai"; "Lab technician killed in Bangalore"; "Man murders three-day lover"; "Interstate bike-lifters nabbed"; "Case against police constable for causing a bleeding injury with a knife"; "Quarrel leads to murder".  
Admittedly, there is no alleged racial element to any of these incidents. However, it shows that violent attacks are not confined to Melbourne or Australia, as we are lead to believe by the Indian media and officials.'  
  
4. Australia's political leaders have spoken out against racism.  
On May 28, 2009, after meeting with the Indian High Commissioner, Sujatha Singh, the Victorian Premier, John Brumby stated that violence against Victoria's Indian community is 'completely unacceptable and should not be tolerated...  
We agree that while the overall rate of crime in Victoria is low compared to other jurisdictions, any incidence of crime or violence against a member of Victoria's Indian community is one too many, completely unacceptable and should not be tolerated.'  
Mr Brumby went on to say that any attack on an individual because of race, culture, gender or appearance is disgraceful and unacceptable.  
On June 1, 2009, the Australian Prime Minister, Mr Kevin Rudd, stated, '"I speak on behalf of all Australians when I say that we deplore and condemn these attacks. I said to (Manmohan) Singh [India's Prime Minister] that the more than 90,000 Indian students in Australia are welcome guests in our country ... and the more than 200,000 Australians of Indian descent are welcome members of the Australian family.'  
Mr Rudd further said, 'Australia is a country of great diversity, harmony and tolerance. We are a multicultural nation and we respect and embrace diversity, diversity which has enriched our nation," he said.  
The Australian government is committed to developing a stronger, closer relationship with India ... (we are) also committed to the safety of all Australians and all those that visit our nation.'  
  
5. Perceptions that Australia is racist are outmoded  
It is argued that claims that Australia is a racially intolerant nation still marked by policies such as the 'White Australia Policy' are outmoded. Critics of this view note that Australia now has a high level of racial and cultural diversity and that this variety of peoples generally live in harmony.   
On a New South Wales Department of Education school's Internet page dealing with multiculturalism it is noted, 'Multiculturalism is wide-ranging and therefore a unifying force in our developing nationhood and our growing identity. Multicultural Australia emphasises the things that unite us as people- our common membership of the Australian community, our desire for social harmony and the benefits of our diversity.  
According to the 2001 census, Australian's come from over 200 countries. Every one of these groups of people has its own cultural diversity as an outcome of history, regional differences, internal and external population movements, as well as variations associated to factors such as class, gender, intermarriage and urban and rural environments.  
Australian multiculturalism means that as a nation we recognise, accept, respect and celebrate our cultural diversity. Australian multiculturalism is about embracing the heritage of Indigenous Australians, early European settlement, our Australian grown customs and those of the diverse range of migrants now coming to Australia.'  
The Leader of the Opposition, Malcolm Turnbull has stated, 'Australia is a country of great diversity, harmony and tolerance. We are a multicultural nation and we respect and embrace diversity, diversity which has enriched our nation.'  
  
**Arguments suggesting Australia is racist**  
1. The treatment of foreigners in Australia, including some in prominent positions, is racist  
Sol Trujillo, the former head of Telstra, has commented on a general racism in Australia, of which, as someone with an Hispanic background, he believes he has been a victim. Mr Trujillo remarked, 'But you know, my point is that ... [racism] does exist and it's got to change because the world is full of a lot of people and most economies have to take advantage - including Australia - of a diverse set of people.   
And if there is a belief that only a certain people are acceptable versus others, that is a sad state.'  
Mr Trujillo further remarked, 'I would say that Australia definitely is different than the US.   
You know, in many ways it's like stepping back in time, just simply because of some of the policies, some of the laws that, you know, are more recent.   
So if you think about, you know, the immigration policies that weren't changed until about 30 years ago or so, which were very...restrictive. If you think about privatisation of companies - you know that's only that's 10 or 15 years old, you know, in terms of what most people would call a developed economy.   
And essentially you know, the isolation of the country, by virtue of distance, you know there's a lot of considerations there that say it's a much different operating climate, environment than most other countries.'  
In response to a specific question as to whether Australia were racist, Mr Trujillo answered, 'Well I think it was evidenced in a lot of ways there, you know, with me personally, but more importantly with others as you look at some of the events that have occurred over the last five or ten years, some of them before I was there, some while I was there.  
But, I'm sure that that will continue because of you know, what I would call the evolution, and the maturation of a country.'  
  
2. There has been a growing number of attacks on foreign nationals, particularly Indians, in Australia  
Greg Sheridan, writing in The Australian on June 4, 2009, noted, 'Last financial year nearly 1500 assaults and robberies were committed on people of Indian origin in Victoria, up by nearly one-third from the year before.'   
The Indian online news site Merinews published an opinion piece by Om Prakash Yadav on June 1, 2009, which made very similar claims. Om Prakash Yadav claims, 'The recent attacks on Indian students studying in Australia have attracted global attention...One Sravan Kumar Theerthala was hit with petrol bottles by some unidentified teens while he was reading book in his house at Melbourne.  
Baljinder Singh, another student from India studying in Melbourne, was robbed and stabbed in his abdomen. Both are struggling for life in hospitals. Sravan's condition is reported to be very critical, he is still in coma.  
In a separate incident, four students were attacked and burgled by racist elements in Australia. One Suketu Modi, a businessman from Surat, was attacked in train by a group of students when he had gone there for IT business. According to student's organisations, these racist attacks have been taking place in Australia for quite some time; most of them went unreported. According to a report, about 20 racial attacks on Indians have taken place last month in Sydney alone.'  
On May 29, 2009, Yadu Singh, a cardiologist who heads the Indian Student Welfare Committee set up by the Indian Consulate in Sydney, described the phenomenon as 'curry bashing', and that 'They are not random at all, the people are targeting them. They know these students are easy targets.'   
Critics of Australia's supposedly racist treatment of immigrants have also noted that in 2007, the then immigration minister, Kevin Andrews, referred to the Sudanese community when he said, 'Some groups don't seem to be settling and adjusting into the Australian way of life as quickly as we would hope.' A spate of violent attacks against Sudanese migrants followed, and one was bashed to death by a group of white men.   
Violence against people from Middle Eastern, South Asian and Indonesian backgrounds escalated after the US launched its 'war on terror' in 2001.  
  
3. Australian leaders have denied the problem, sometimes for economic and diplomatic reasons  
On June 1, 2009, Sam Varghese, a subeditor with The Age Online, argued, 'Nobody, but nobody, is willing to call a spade a spade and slam the perpetrators for what this is - latent racism in society coming to the fore. Everyone, the police first and foremost, is pussyfooting around the problem and trying to characterise the naked violence as anything but an expression of racial hostility.  
As long as this goes on, we'll continue to see more of such senseless violence in the suburbs. And it will embolden others in other regions of the country who have feelings of the same kind to express themselves with sticks, stones and knives.'  
In a letter published in The Age on May 30, 2009, David Vorchheimer stated, 'It is little wonder the Indian Government is furious with the lack of response to the continued assaults of Indian students. For five years Mr Brumby, Mr Cameron and Victoria Police have denied there is race-hate based crime in Victoria.   
The Government's "decisive" actions have included telling victims how to behave, setting up a helpline and even travelling to India. The basic problem, however, is that police attitudes have not changed. Police do not take the incidents seriously and seek to blame victims rather than the aggressors. It is time for a fundamental change in policing and government attitudes to tackle race-hate crimes.'  
Victoria University's Hurriyet Babacan, who is leading a research project into violence against Indian students, said there was evidence of a 'new' racism in Australia against groups seen as not fitting in.   
Professor Babacan said efforts to tackle racism in the past had been hampered by a reluctance to admit it existed, not least because it could hurt the nation's $15.5 billion-a-year international student market.   
'We don't like to talk about it. It is a confronting and difficult topic and it implicates us all in the indigenous history,' Professor Babacan said. She said the Indian community had long complained that the attacks were racially motivated but there was an initial reluctance on the part of the police to acknowledge that.   
  
4. Legislative and other responses to racism are an acknowledgement there is a problem  
It has been claimed that the legislative responses to the recent attacks on Indian students are an acknowledgement that there is a problem.  
Foreign Minister Stephen Smith said he had discussed the problem with his Indian counterpart, S.M. Krishna, and had promised that Australia was doing all it could to prevent the violence and prosecute the perpetrators.  
Mr Smith said, 'We have a particular current problem with Indian students. It's an issue we're very well aware of and we're working very closely with the relevant state authorities as a consequence.'  
The Prime Minister, Kevin Rudd, has has reassured Indian authorities and Indian students in Australia that these attacks are being treated seriously and that appropriate actions are being taken.  
A multi-agency taskforce has been set up to deal with the issue, and tougher sentencing will be introduced so that judges will take ''hatred for or a prejudice against a particular group of people' into account when punishing offenders.  
These has been a dedicated help line has been set up for Indian students who have been victims of crime. The students will be offered advice about how attacks might be avoided in future.   
Victorian Premier, John Brumby, has announced he will lead a 'harmony walk' through Melbourne on July 12 to demonstrate Victoria's strong support for multiculturalism.  
Critics of supposed racist attitudes in Australia have argued that none of these measures would be necessary if Australia did not have a problem with racial intolerance.   
  
5. That other nations have a problem with racism does not mean there is no problem in Australia  
Greg Sheridan, writing in The Australian on June 4, 2009, noted, 'There is nothing more lame than an Australian defence that points out that racism and policing problems exist in India, too.   
So what? This is not a point-scoring game.'  
A similar observation was made by Sandy Gifford in an article published in The Age on June 13, 2009, which stated, 'The argument that Australia has less racism or is less racist than other countries is not an excuse.  
Racism, like rape, like genocide, like torture, is wrong and having less of it or being better than other countries does not make it right. Acts of hate violence such as in the recent attacks on Indian students must be seen as stemming from deeper problems in our society.'  
A 2008 survey of more than 4000 Victorians found 90 per cent support for diversity, with 82 per cent of respondents feeling comfortable with people from different ethnic backgrounds.   
But 37 per cent agreed with the statement that Australia was weakened by different ethnic cultures sticking to their 'old ways'.   
And 36 per cent believed there were groups that did not fit into Australian society. Of these, Muslims and people from the Middle East were mentioned most often, possibly reflecting security concerns in the wake of the September 11, 2001, attacks on the US.   
  
**Further implications**  
In the short-term a number of actions have been taken to allay concerns among Indian students studying in Australia and to placate the Indian government. Some members of the Indian community in Australia have also begun to take steps to ensure the safety of their people.  
Prime Minister Kevin Rudd has offered reassurances to India, and the Indian community here, that the attacks are considered abhorrent by Australians and are being taken very seriously. A multi-agency taskforce has been set up to deal with the issue, and tougher sentencing will be   
introduced so that judges will take 'hatred for or a prejudice against a particular group of people' into account when punishing offenders.  
A dedicated help line has been set up for Indian students who have been victims of crime, with advice being offered about how attacks might be avoided in future.   
Members of the Indian community, who believe the police have not been supportive enough, have responded by gathering in large numbers at one of the trouble spots, St Albans station, to protect students travelling late at night.   
Some have suggested that police have shown a 'lack of sensitivity', or have been slow in reacting to student complaints. However, police have given assurances that extra resources will be made available to deal with the problem.   
Premier John Brumby will lead a 'harmony walk' through Melbourne on July 12 to demonstrate Victoria's strong support for multiculturalism.   
Additionally there is concern that reports of attacks on Indian students studying in Australia will have a negative effect on the Australian tertiary education sector. Currently providing tertiary courses for Indian students is an important source of income for Australian universities and other tertiary institutions.   
The education sector in New Zealand has moved to distance itself from attacks on Indian students, saying they were 'totally different societies'. The Chief Executive of the New Zealand Education Trust, Robert Stevens, has stressed to prospective students from India that New Zealand 'is a different country from Australia - in the nicest possible way', and is striving to market New Zealand to Indians in this manner. Education authorities in New Zealand are hoping recent attacks on Indian students in Australia will make New Zealand a more attractive option.  
  
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**Ever Present Racism**

Since the colonization of Australia in 1788 aboriginals have been stripped of most of what had been theirs for over 40,000 years. They were considered non-existent by the British who settled there, and were treated in line with this belief. Though both humans with the same capabilities a white man was seen as respectable, whilst the aboriginals were beaten, raped and killed. Over the last two and a half centuries Australia’s views of aboriginals has began to be more truthful, but not without a lot pain suffering along the way. From the very beginning the British took their land leaving them no where to go; stole their children putting them in homes, foster care and missions and releasing them into white society at age 18, in an effort to end aboriginal culture and solve the ‘aboriginal problem’. Although today’s society is more peaceful racism is still exists. Rather this time in the form of stereotyping. This dangerous habit often ends up giving people unfair labels and strips them of their rights.Though many efforts and laws have been put in place since then to bring us all equality, we are still not quite there with much prejudice still continuing.

For the use of British farming, the aboriginals who had lived there for so many thousands of years were simply driven away, expected to find someplace else to live. But with the land being such a big part of aboriginal culture and survival, this did enormous damage to the aboriginal population and lifestyle, with many communities being completely wiped out. As more and more land was snatched from them, they retaliated, though this often led to bloodshed and gave the British a greater will to wipe them out all together. No alternative was offered to them, and the British saw them simply as things that were getting in the way of their plans, not as people with rights. “As the British settlement grew, the Indigenous peoples lost more of their land and many of their family members…This further consolidated the European view of the time that Indigenous peoples were inferior, and were unable look after themselves or the land.” This false sense of superiority caused immense damage to aboriginal communities and in different ways it continued. Even now, though usually in more discrete ways, it still exists.

From 1869 to 1969 aboriginal children were forcibly removed from their families. Most spent their childhood years in institutions where they received little education. The boys were taught to do farming work and the girls to perform domestic duties. Others were sent to foster homes where they were often sexually and physically abused. The reason these children were removed, or stolen, is widely debated. The government created these laws to ‘protect’ them and help integrate them with white society. Others argue it was an attempt to wipe out aboriginals, because after a few generations the children’s descendants would no longer have dark skin, hence losing their ‘aboriginality’. The law was intended to affect those children whose parents had died, abandoned them or were incapable of looking after them. But many children were stolen from stable homes with the justification being ‘they are aboriginal’. “Board members sometimes wrote simply "For being Aboriginal" as the explanation when recording a removal.” Many of these children were ‘half-castes’, meaning they had one aboriginal parent and one white, and were often the result of rape. And if any of the children were to fall pregnant the baby was often removed immediately after birth and placed in similar situations. “There is no black or white, we are both of those. I am black and I am white. We were the product of white men raping our traditional women. We were an embarrassment. No-one wanted us. They just wanted us out of the way.” The dark colour of aboriginal’s skin caused many of the British to assume that these children were at risk and that their parents were incapable of taking care of them. Though in some situations this was true many children were taken away unnecessarily and denied their right to know their parents and aboriginal background.   
  
Since these times, much has been done to recognize the aboriginals as equal to the British, including land rights and voting. And though aboriginals aren’t being shot at and forced to evacuate their homes, there are still types of racism towards them, including, less violent but just as damaging stereotyping. Too often people over-generalise, assuming all people from a group (race) are the same and do the same things. Concerning aboriginals a black man standing on a hill with a spear might come to mind or maybe the more modern portrayal of a violent drunkard with no education that often turns to crime. And even though some aboriginals may fit this description (and I’m sure many whites do as well) it is uneducated for any one to assume all aboriginals are the same. Stereotyping not only creates problem on a personal level but in many rural areas also makes employers reluctant about hiring aboriginals. “Aboriginal leaders in regional Victoria say racism there is thriving in the bush and preventing their people from getting jobs. Indigenous unemployment is as high as 80 per cent in some areas. Elders attribute much of that to white employers' reluctance to hire Aborigines.” This is a vicious cycle because the reluctance of employers prevents the aboriginal unemployment rate from dropping giving people all the more reason to stereotype. In order to reach equality racism needs to be completely eradicated giving everyone an equal opportunity for an education and employment regardless of race.

There is no doubt many laws have been put in place to help bring about equality. And compared to two hundred years ago many have realised that white people are in fact not superior to those with dark skin such as aboriginals. But many people also assume that just because they are recognized as people, have the right to vote and have ownership over their traditional land, provide them with welfare, financial benefits and fund community programs there is nothing more they can do but wait for aboriginals to sort it out. “The alienation suffered by indigenous people is acute…. It also an explanation for low participation in education...it is caused by the persistent racism and oppression faced by indigenous people that is fostered by the Australian capitalist system. ” As long as Australia as a nation is racist it is unlikely that the lifestyle and living conditions for aboriginals will improve. It will take more than financial and political change but also social change to truly bring equality to all Australians.

Since the arrival of British colonies in the 18th century aboriginals have lost so much of their culture and been treated as inferiors by people no more intelligent than they. They endured so much suffering at the hands of the British, more than any of us could comprehend. And though racism is not what it was those many years ago, it is still very much alive, continuing to hurt as it has done for so many years already.

**Conclusion:**

* Reinforce why your product is the best on the market
* Sign off with your cereal’s slogan